### WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

MARTIN LIPTON HERBERT M. WACHTELL THEODORE GEWERTZ
BERNARD W. NUSSBAUM
RICHARD D. KATCHER
DOUGLAS S. LIEBHAFSKY PETER C. CANELLOS MICHAEL W. SCHWARTZ ALLAN A. MARTIN BARRY A. BRYER LAWRENCE B. PEDOWITZ ROBERT B. MAZUR PAUL VIZCARRONDO, JR. PETER C. HEIN HAROLD S. NOVIKOFF DAVID M. EINHORN KENNETH B. FORREST MEYER G. KOPLOW THEODORE N. MIRVIS EDWARD D. HERLIHY RICHARD D. FEINTUCH DANIEL A. NEFF ERIC M. ROTH WARREN R. STERN ANDREW R. BROWNSTEIN MICHAEL H. BYOWITZ PAUL K. ROWE MICHAEL B. BENNER MARC WOLINSKY DAVID GRUENSTEIN PATRICIA A. VLAHAKIS STEPHEN G. GELLMAN BARBARA ROBBINS STEVEN A. ROSENBLUM PAMELA S. SEYMON STEPHANIE J. SELIGMAN ERIC S. ROBINSON ELLIOTT V. STEIN

JOHN F. SAVARESE SCOTT K. CHARLES ANDREW C. HOUSTON PHILIP MINDLIN DAVID S. NEILL JODI J. SCHWARTZ ADAM O. EMMERICH CRAIG M. WASSERMAN ADAM D. CHINN GEORGE T. CONWAY III RALPH M. LEVENE RICHARD G. MASON KAREN G. KRUEGER DOUGLAS K. MAYER DAVID M. SILK ROBIN PANOVKA DAVID A. KATZ MITCHELL S. PRESSER ILENE KNABLE GOTTS JEFFREY R. BOFFA DAVID M. MURPHY JEFFREY M. WINTNER TREVOR S. NORWITZ BEN M. GERMANA ANDREW J. NUSSBAUM MICHAEL S. KATZKE RACHELLE SILVERBERG DAVID C. BRYAN STEVEN A. COHEN GAVIN D. SOLOTAR GAVIN D. SOLUTAR DEBORAH L. PAUL DAVID C. KARP RICHARD K. KIM JOSHUA R. CAMMAKER MARK GORDON JOSEPH D. LARSON LAWRENCE S. MAKOW

51 WEST 52ND STREET

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019-6150

TELEPHONE: (212) 403-1000

GEORGE A. KATZ (1965-1989)
JAMES H. FOGELSON (1967-1991)

FACSIMILE: (212) 403-2000

COUNSEL

WILLIAM T. ALLEN
ADRIENNE ATKINSON
PAMELA EHRENKRANZ
NORMAN REDLICH

JOHN M. RICHMAN LEONARD M. ROSEN AMY R. WOLF LAWRENCE A. PASINI
LORI S. SHERMAN
BARBARA KOHL GERSCHWER
SETH GARDNER
PAULA N. GORDON
T. EIKO STANGE
LORENZO BORGOGNI
JAMES COLE, JR.
STEPHEN R. DIPRIMA
BETTINA ECKERLE
NANCY B. GREENBAUM
ARRIE R. PARK
DAVID A. SCHWARTZ
ALEXANDER SHAKNES
ANDREW JH. CHEUNG
NICHOLAS G. DEMMO
ELAINE P. GOLIN
IGOR KIRMAN
JONATHAN M. MOSES
ADAM J. SHAPIRO
JED I. BERGMAN

NELSON O. FITTS
JEFFREY C. FOURMAUX
MICHAEL GAT
TERESA K. GOEBEL
JEREMY L. GOLDSTEIN
MAURA R. GROSSMAN
JOSHUA M. HOLMES
PETER E. IZANEC
DAVID B. LAT
MARTIN LEBWOHL
LAURA A. MCINTOSH
JOSHUA A. MUNN
DAVID J. PASSEY
STEVEN J. PEARL
DAVID E. SHAPIRO
ANTE VUCIC
IAN BOCZKO
KEVIN M. COSTANTINO
MARGARET GARNETT
BRIAN D. GOTTLIEB
LAURYN P. GOULDIN
MATTHEW M. GUEST
WILLIAM R. HARKER
DAVID KAHAN
MARKA K. KOENIG
DAVID K. LAM

January 7, 2003

03003045

DIMITRY JOFFE
ROY J. KATZOVICZ
ROBERT J. LIUBICIC
GREGORY E. OSTLING
JONATHAN E. PICKHARDT
GREGORY N. RACZ
MATTHEW H. BAUGHMAN
EDWARD J.W. BLATNIK
BENJAMIN S. BURMAN
ALLISON D. CHRISTIANS
DON W. CRUSE, JR.

GEORGE J. RHEAULT
ANASTASIA A. ANGELOVA
FRANCINE M. BANNER
SAMUEL M. BAYARD
JAMES R. LEVINE
STEPHANIE P. LISTOKIN
NATALIE B. MILANI
ERIN E. OUINN
DANIELLE L. ROSE
BENJAMIN M. ROTH
ANDREW A. SCHWARTZ

KENNETH K. LEE JANICE A. LIU LAURA E. MUÑOZ JAMES J, PARK

\*OF MARYLAND BAR ONLY

By Federal Express

Office of International Corporate Finance Division of Corporation Finance Securities and Exchange Commission Judiciary Plaza 450 Fifth Street, N.W.

Re:

Pinault-Printemps-Redoute S.A.

Submission Pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b)(iii)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Washington, D.C. 20549

By letter dated April 27, 2001, on behalf of our client Pinault-Printemps-Redoute S.A. (the "Company"), we made a submission to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") in order to establish the Company's exemption from the registration requirements of Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) promulgated under the Exchange Act. We are furnishing this letter and the enclosed documents on behalf of the Company in order to maintain such exemption and to comply with the requirements of Rule 12g3-2(b)(iii) of the Exchange Act.

Pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b)(4), the information contained in, and the documents enclosed with, this letter are not deemed "filed" with the SEC or otherwise subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Exchange Act. Furthermore, pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b)(5), neither this letter nor the furnishing of such information and documents will constitute an admission for any purpose that the Company is subject to the Exchange Act.

DW 1/19

Securities and Exchange Commission January 7, 2003 Page 2

The information set forth below is a summary of documentation which the Company has made public pursuant to French law, filed with a stock exchange (and which was made public by that exchange) or distributed to its securities holders:

- 1. On October 30, 2002, Rexel, a subsidiary of the Company, issued a press release announcing its outlook for 2002. A copy of the English-language version of this press release is attached as Appendix A to this letter.
- 2. On November 18, 2002, the Company issued a press release announcing the appointment of Valerie Nowak as Director of Internal Communications. A copy of the Englishlanguage version of this press release is attached as Appendix B to this letter.
- 3. On December 23, 2002, the Company issued a press release announcing the completion of the sale of its Credit and Financial Services Division. A copy of the English-language version of this press release is attached as Appendix C to this letter.

\* \* \* \* \*

If the SEC has any questions or requires any further information, please contact the undersigned at (212) 403-1331 or David A. Katz, also of this office, at (212) 403-1309. Finally, I would greatly appreciate your acknowledging receipt of this letter and the enclosure by stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Very truly yours,

Joshua R. Cammaker

Enclosure

cc: Julien Naginski, Esq.

Pinault-Printemps-Redoute S.A.

David A. Katz, Esq.

Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz

# Appendix A

#### Release 2002

10.30.02

#### Outlook for 2002

On October 17, REXEL reported consolidated sales for the first nine months to September 30, 2002 amounted to 5.518 billion, compared with 5.966 billion at September 30, 2001. On a comparable structural, exchange rate and day-year basis, sales were down 6.2%.

This trend is explained by continued difficult markets, even though a slowdown in the Group's overall sales decline has been observed, notably in the US in August and September.

In these market conditions, the Group anticipates approximately 4% operating margin for the entire year 2002, i.e. close to first half 's trend.

In light of this situation, along with the lack of clear market direction, the priority objectives of REXEL's new Chairman and CEO since September 19, 2002, Jean-Charles Pauze, are to concentrate on sales improvements and cost reductions. The Group will not only focus on speeding the pace of existing efforts in this direction, but on rapid implementation of new measures, including:

- stepped up reduction in operating expenses throughout the Group, particularly in Europe;
- a streamlined logistics organization and rationalized branch locations in certain countries;
- · enhanced investment selectivity;
- · conservative measures destined to accelerate the depreciation of certain assets in light of market situations.

These measures will be reflected in a charge of approximately 150 million for non-recurring expenses for 2002.

In an environment comparable to that prevailing today, these measures should enable REXEL to improve its operating margin by about 0.5 point of sales on a full-year basis.

**REXEL**, a subsidiary of Pinault-Printemps-Redoute, is the world leader in the distribution of electrical parts and supplies, with a network of 1,860 sales outlets in 32 countries and 24,000 employees.

Press contact: (33 1) 4285 5989

Financial analyst/investor contact:
J. P. Facques: (33 1) 4285 5761
Email: jfacques@rexel.fr

# Appendix B

# PINAULT PRINTEMPS-REDOUTE

## **APPOINTMENT**

# Valérie NOWAK is appointed Director of Internal Communications for the PINAULT-PRINTEMPS-REDOUTE group

Paris, 18 November 2002

Valérie NOWAK joins the PINAULT-PRINTEMPS-REDOUTE group's Communications Management, which is directed by Vincent de LA VAISSIERE, as Director of Internal Communications. She replaces Brice LEFRANC who has joined ZNZ GROUP to create a Corporate Communication subsidiary.

Until now, Valérie NOWAK, 36 year-old, graduate of the IEP (Institute for Political Studies) of Bordeaux, has been Senior Vice President in charge of Communications for REXEL, a PINAULT-PRINTEMPS-REDOUTE subsidiary, world leader in electrical parts and supplies distribution. She was formerly Manager of Communications at the MALAKOFF Group, Consultant for the PUBLICIS Group at Lyon in France, Manager of Communications at the NOVALLIANCE Group, and worked as an economic journalist.

### Contact

Press: Catherine Malek at +33-1 44.90.61.20

Appendix C

# PINAULT PRINTEMPS-REDOUTE

Paris, 23 December 2002

### PRESS RELEASE

# FINALISATION OF THE SALE OF THE CREDIT AND FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Pinault-Printemps-Redoute has now completed the sale of its Credit and Financial Services Division.

The Group announced that, on Decembre 20, 2002, it has sold 90% of Facet (Conforama's card business) to BNP Paribas and signed the final agreement regarding the sale of Finaref to Credit Agricole SA. Under the terms of this agreement, the sale of Finaref will be completed in two phases: 61% in January 2003 and the remaining 29 % in January 2004.

The PPR Group will retain a 10 % stake in Facet and Finaref as well as control over the commercial files and its marketing actions. The total underlying value of the businesses that have been sold exceeds 3.6 billion euros.

### **CONTACTS**

Press: Juliette Psaume 01 44 90 63 02

Catherine Malek 01 44 90 61 20

Analysts/Investors: David Newhouse 01 44 90 63 23

Alexandre de Brettes 01 44 90 61 49

Press site: www.pprlive.com

Analysts/investors site: www.pprfinance.com